

Appln. No.: 10/042,245
Amendment dated August 9, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 9, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action of May 9, 2005, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 15, 20, 21, and 50 have been amended, claims 10-14 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-9 and 15-63 thus remain pending in this application. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Petition for Extension of Time

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time in order to submit this Amendment. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any requisite extension of time fee to our Deposit Account 19-0733.

Restriction Requirement

The Office Action restricted the claims into the following groups:¹

- Group I: Claims 1, 22, 35, and 44, as well as claims 51 and 59 (by subsequent interview summary).
- Group II: Claim 10
- Group III: Claim 20
- Group IV: Claim 21
- Group V: Claims 15 and 50

Applicant hereby elects Group I without traverse. Applicant has, as a result, canceled claims 10-14 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amended claims 15, 20, 21, and 50 to be included in the elected group.

CONCLUSION

All rejections having been addressed, applicant respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicits prompt notification of the

¹ Applicant assumes that each claim group also includes the dependent claims of each of the identified independent claims therein.

Appl. No.: 10/042,245
Amendment dated August 9, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 9, 2005

same. However, if for any reason the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance or there are any questions, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (202) 824-3153.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated this 9th day of August, 2005

By: /Ross Dannenberg/
Ross Dannenberg, Registration No. 49,024

1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
Tel: (202) 824-3000
Fax: (202) 824-3001
RAD/mmd